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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/676,091	10/02/2003	Tsuneo Takashima	00862.023263	8388
5514	7590	01/19/2005	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO			LE, DANG D	
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA			ART UNIT	
NEW YORK, NY 10112			PAPER NUMBER	
			2834	

DATE MAILED: 01/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/676,091

Applicant(s)

TAKASHIMA, TSUNEO

Examiner

Dang D Le

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 December 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6,7,10,13-17 and 19-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-5,8,9,11,12 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</p> <p>2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</p> <p>3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.</p> | <p>4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.</p> <p>5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</p> <p>6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.</p> |
|---|--|

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Katsuhiko (JP 61-290231).

Regarding claim 20, Katsuhiko shows a stage apparatus comprising:

- A guide (1, Figure 1) provided with a surface comprising a magnetic body (7);
- A moving body (10) movable along the surface;
- A gas bearing (19, 20) for supporting said moving body with respect to the surface; and
- A magnet (25) which is supplied to said moving body and produces a magnetic attractive force with said magnetic body,

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- Wherein said magnet is supplied to limit movement of said moving body in a direction orthogonal (left-right) to its traveling direction (into or out of the paper), and apply pre-pressure to said gas bearing.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

6. Claims 1, 6, 7, 10, 13-17, 19, 21-24, 26, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyajima et al. (6,266,133) in view of Katsuhiko.

Regarding claims 1, 17, and 21, Miyajima et al. shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention in Figure 1 except for a magnet provided on the first and

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second movable guide for the purpose of applying the magnetic attractive force between the movable guides and the guide surface.

Katsuhiko shows a magnet (25) provided on the movable body (10) with a magnetic body on the guide (1) in a gas bearing assembly for the purpose of maintaining stability.

Since Miyajima et al. and Katsuhiko are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include a magnet on the movable guides and a magnetic body on the guide surface as taught by Katsuhiko for the purpose discussed above.

Regarding claims 6, 7, 10, 13-16, 19, 22-24, 26, it is noted that Miyajima et al. and Katsuhiko also shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention.

7. Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katsuhiko in view of Ohzeki (6,184,596).

Regarding claim 25, Katsuhiko shows all of the limitations of the claimed invention in Figure 1 except for the exposure apparatus.

Ohzeki shows the exposure apparatus for the purpose of making a semiconductor exposure device

Since Katsuhiko and Ohzeki are all from the same field of endeavor; the purpose disclosed by one inventor would have been recognized in the pertinent art of the others.

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It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to include the exposure apparatus as taught by Ohzeki for the purpose discussed above.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 2-5, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

9. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the record of prior art does not show an apparatus comprising size of the guide surface in the width direction being defined by a groove, which extends along the traveling direction, provided in the top side of said guide, and a terminus, which extends along the traveling direction, of the top side of said guide as shown in claim 2, or the top side of said guide being provided with a protrusion, which extends along the traveling direction, so as to oppose said magnet, and said guide surface is formed by the top side of said protrusion opposing the magnet as shown in claim 3, or the guide having a first groove extending along the first direction and a second groove extending along the second direction on the surface, and wherein the movement of said first guide is limited by the first groove and the movement of said second guide is limited by the second groove as shown in claim 18.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.**

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See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Information on How to Contact USPTO

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dang D Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-2027. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on (571) 272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

1/14/05

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dangle L. K.", with a stylized, cursive script.

DANGLE
PRIMARY EXAMINER